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The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. the Minister did not make any distinction between the two portions, confidential and non-confidential. He refuses to place the whole matter on the table."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" What he said, Sir, was that some orders are confidential."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" But he refused to place all the orders on the table."

Nominations of members to honorary positions in the gift of Government.

* 767 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state the names of the members of the Legislative Council who have been nominated since 4th December 1926 to memberships of local bodies, including taluk boards, district and municipal councils and to District Educational Councils, District Secondary Boards and any other honorary positions which it lay in the power of the Government to confer ?

A.—A list [a] furnishing the information available is laid on the table. Appointments of members of taluk boards are ordinarily made by the presidents of district boards. The taluk board appointments in the list were made under section 240 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920.

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to the list given in the appendix may I ask the hon. Minister why as many as 33 of the places on these boards by nomination of the Government have gone to hon. Members of this House, whether it is because in the opinion of the Government, no other competent person could be had in those places for these offices, and whether the Government have considered that such a free distribution of partonage among Members of this Council may be interpreted by the public as acting under the Walpolean maxim ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I am not quite aware of Walpole and his methods, but if my hon. Friend chooses to put that interpretation on it, he is welcome to do it."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I am very glad for that answer. May I then ask him whether in his own opinion these nominations were capable of that interpretation, that some of these jobs were given to these people in order to please the Members of the House ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" That is certainly not my interpretation, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Then, Sir, may I ask for an answer to my question, instead of looking round for admiration for his answer to the question, whether, in his opinion, there are not other men equally competent to fill these places, and what are the reasons on which he based his conclusion that these men, 33 of them, were the only best men in the various localities, for these jobs ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Looking round for admiration is not my weakness; I think it is the weakness of my hon. Friend."

[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 393-394 infra.

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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Certainly not, Sir."

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Certainly not mine either."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I am glad to hear that."

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" In regard to this question, the Government thought that these gentlemen were worthy of being members of the local bodies concerned."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" My question has not yet been answered, Sir. I ask him whether in his opinion—I am not saying that these men are not qualified . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Does the hon. Member say 'in the opinion of the Government?'"

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" No, Sir. I am asking what are the considerations on which the Government appointed these gentlemen and whether one of those considerations was that these were the only men available in those various localities fit or competent to discharge the duties of these hon. offices?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" In the opinion of the Government they were persons who were quite capable of discharging those duties."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" My question still remains unanswered. May I explain myself, Sir? May I know from the Government whether they considered the possibility of getting other equally suitable men for these places in the various localities and whether it was because they found that these men were more suitable than the other people or the latter were not suitable, that these men were appointed; or is it because of any man being suitable and these men being appointed, the only accident being that they happen to be Members of this Council?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The question is so full of conundrums that I want notice of it, Sir."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, from the hon. the Chief Minister—since I find the names of some gentlemen twice over in this list—whether the Government considered how many of these gentlemen occupied a number of honorary positions already and why they considered that such people who already occupied a number of honorary positions should be given additional honorary positions without further enquiry as to whether others were available?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question does not arise."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know, Sir, whether membership of this Council is a preferential qualification for any one of those appointments?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" There is no question of preferential qualification."

Representation of depressed classes in the major Union Board of Gudivada.

* 768 Q.—Mr. S. VENKAYYA : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are in receipt of any petitions, reports, etc., from the people of the Kistna District Board regarding the absence of any representation of the Adi-Andhras or other depressed classes in the major